3.4 Green Crime and State Crime as Categories of Harm: 10-minute Pack

AQA 7192 · about 10 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions. Write full sentences for the longer, 10-mark and 12-mark questions.

1 Define 'ecocentric' as it applies to green criminology, and give one implication this perspective has for how harm is measured.

(Total for Question 1 is 4 marks)

2 Explain one methodological challenge researchers face when trying to measure primary green crimes such as species decline.

(Total for Question 2 is 2 marks)

3 Identify and explain one reason why some acts that harm the environment are not classified as crimes in many countries.

(Total for Question 3 is 2 marks)

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Mark scheme · 3.4 Green Crime and State Crime as Categories of Harm: 10-minute Pack

Question 1

defines ecocentric, e.g. a viewpoint that gives intrinsic value to the natural environment and non-human life (oe) **B1**

development of definition, e.g. contrasts with anthropocentric views that prioritise human interests **B1**

gives one implication, e.g. measuring harm must include ecological impact indicators, such as species decline, ecosystem services loss or biodiversity measures **B1**

brief development of the implication, e.g. these measures may not be captured by criminal statistics focused on legal breaches **B1**

Answer: Ecocentric means valuing the natural environment and non-human life for their own sake rather than only for human benefit. This implies measuring harm by ecological indicators such as species decline, habitat loss or reduced ecosystem services, which are not always captured by legal crime statistics.

Question 2

identifies a methodological challenge, e.g. lack of baseline ecological data or long timescales for species decline **B1**

development, e.g. without baseline records and with slow ecological change it is hard to attribute declines to specific events or actors **B1**

Answer: One challenge is the lack of baseline ecological data and the long timescales involved in species decline, making it difficult to attribute change to a single event or actor and to measure the scale and timing of harm accurately.

Question 3

identifies a reason, e.g. lack of legal definition or regulatory gaps **B1**

brief explanation, e.g. laws may not cover certain types of environmental harm or penalties may be weak, so harmful acts are treated as regulation breaches not crimes **B1**

Answer: One reason is gaps in legislation or weak legal definitions, so some harmful acts are treated as regulatory breaches with civil penalties rather than criminal offences, meaning they are not recorded as crimes.

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